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THE BAPTIST Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

'Courageous' opens in theaters Sept. 30

ALBANY, Ga. (BP and local reports) — *Courageous*, the next film from the makers of *Fireproof* and *Facing The Giants*, is more than an excuse to eat movie theater popcorn — it is a challenge for both fathers and churches.

"It's not just a two-hour diversion," said Elizabeth Fields of Provident Films, the movie's distributor. "It's entertainment with a purpose."

Courageous opens Sept. 30 in more than 900 theaters across America and is the fourth movie produced by Sherwood Church in Albany, Ga., which is pastored by Pascagoula native Michael Catt.

In addition to *Courageous*, *Fireproof*, and *Facing The Giants*, the church produced the movie *Flywheel*, which was not played nationally in theaters but is available on DVD.

The new movie underscores the importance of fathers and shows how five different men, four of whom work together on the police force, struggle to become better fathers. *Courageous* highlights fathers, but Stephen Kendrick, the movie's producer, helped make sure it also shows the dynamics and importance of the whole family unit.

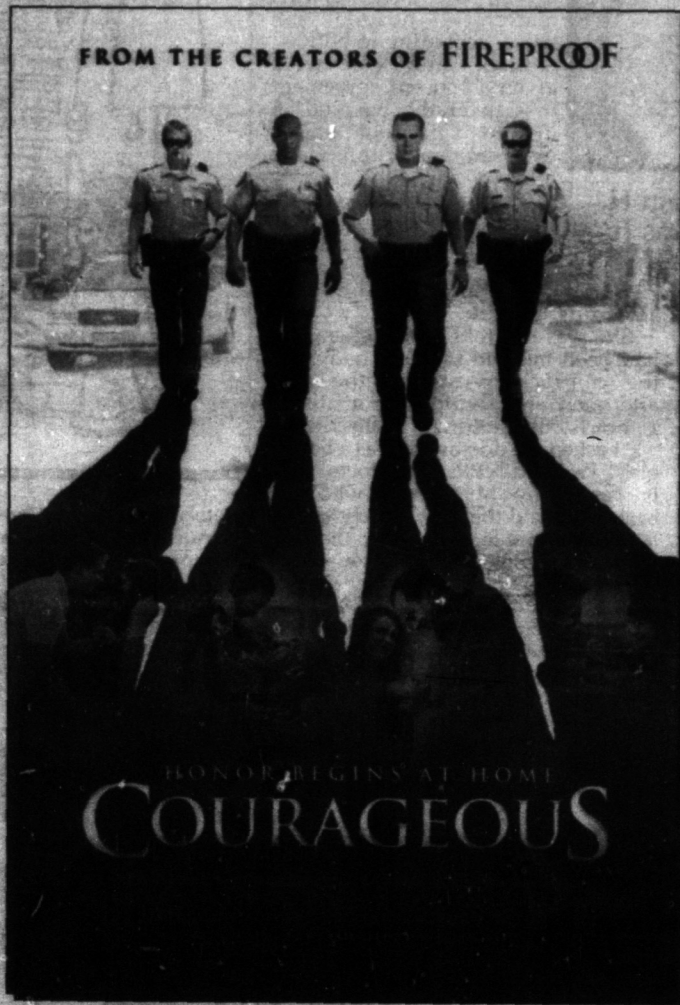
"In this movie, we do not downplay or undermine the importance of moms," Kendrick said. "In this generation, the dads have fallen asleep at the wheel and the mom is reaching over and grabbing the wheel and trying to keep the family alive and going."

A father is essential for children and those who grow up either without a dad — one in three, according to a U.S. government statistic — are more likely to face trouble in many areas of their lives.

For example, almost 40% of prison inmates in the U.S. grew up without a father and children without a father are twice as likely to drop out of school, according to the U.S. Department of Justice and government statistics.

While *Courageous* calls fathers to invest in their children, the movie's producers also challenge churches to show their support for faith films.

People should watch the movie on opening weekend because those first few days are the bellwether for success and play a role in the fate of future



Sherwood films, said Fields, who coordinates groups, or action squads, that want to bring the movie to their town.

"We wholeheartedly recommend that people go on opening weekend because the story we want to tell is that there is a need and a desire for faith films," Fields said.

However, seeing the movie is just the beginning of how churches can use the movie as a ministry tool. Churches can buy tickets for opening weekend at the *Courageous* movie website (www.courageousmoviemovie.com) and can find resources at another website, CourageousResources.com.

Following are ways churches can support and use the movie for ministry:

- Buying all the tickets for a showing. Churches can rent out a theater so their congrega-

"It's not just a two-hour diversion. It's entertainment with a purpose."

— Elizabeth Fields
Provident Films

gation can see the movie together. Christians in towns where *Courageous* is not playing can also get in on the action and bring the movie to their town by pledging to purchase 1,000 tickets. (For more information go to CourageousMovie.com and click "Take Action.")

A large majority of theaters in Mississippi have already committed to screening the film (see listing in left margin).

- Having church at the movies. Instead of a traditional Sunday morning service, churches can call their theater to set up a morning showing and provide childcare back at the church nursery for families who attend.

- Giving tickets to chaplains, law enforcement officers, and first responders.

- Inviting unchurched friends, coworkers, or family to see the movie.

- Putting up posters and flyers to promote the movie on church campuses or in the community.

- Embedding the movie trailer on church websites. (To find the trailer, go to the movie's website and click on "Click Here to Watch the Trailer." Then copy the code beneath the video.) Scroll down to view the trailer at the bottom of this article.

- Planning a sermon or series on fatherhood either leading to or following the movie's release.

- Using *Courageous* material to start a men's ministry or to study in an existing group. (Resources, including small group guides, can be found at www.CourageousResources.com.)
- Reaching out to men with an event like a breakfast or special service honoring fathers.
- Purchasing *The Resolution for Men* or *The Resolution for Women*, and sharing it with church members. All materials will be released in September and published by B&H Publishing Group.

"[The film] is needed because of the state of fatherlessness in America," said Jim McBride, the movie's executive producer, Sherwood Church's executive pastor, and a cameo actor in several of the films.

"In 36% of all homes, the children are fatherless but all of us know that even beyond that there are a lot of homes where the dad is present physically but not mentally. I think this movie is much-needed because it's going to challenge dads to step up into their role as husband and leader and father in the home."



Courageous in Mississippi theaters on Sept. 30

Westbrook Cinema 4
Brookhaven

Cinema 8
Columbus

Corinth Cinema 10
Corinth

Grand 18
D'Iberville

Parkway Place 10
Flowood

Nelco Cineplex
Greenville

Cinema 16
Gulfport

Grand 18
Hattiesburg

Grandview 17
Madison

Bonita Lakes 9
Meridian

The Movie Reel 4
New Albany

Oxford Studio 8
Oxford

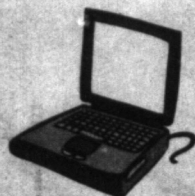
Tinseltown USA 17
Pearl

Canal Place Cinema 7
Philadelphia

DeSoto Cinema 16
Southaven

Hollywood Premiere 11
Starkville

Tupelo Commons 10
Tupelo



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Straight from the heart

Chinese pastor Liang Yage and his wife Wei Linrong dreaded the knock on the door they knew one day was coming. According to a National Public Radio (NPR) report by Louise Lim, the couple already had a child and Wei was pregnant with their second baby — in direct violation of China's one-child policy. When the ten "family planning" authorities finally got around to paying a visit to Liang and Wei, she was seven months along in the pregnancy — but that didn't matter. They demanded she abort the baby.

"You don't have any more room for maneuver," Liang said the authorities told them. "If you don't go [to the hospital], we'll carry you," and that's exactly what happened. The couple was driven to Youjiang district maternity hospital in Baise, according to NPR.

Liang and Wei were given a consent agreement to sign at the hospital. A devout Christian pastor opposed to abortion, Liang refused and the family planning officials simply signed it for him. Wei was whisked away and administered three injections in the lower abdomen, according to NPR.

She was not told which chemicals had been injected into her body, but the contractions started the next afternoon and continued for almost 16 hours. Her child was stillborn.

"I asked the doctor if it was a boy or girl," Wei told NPR. "The doctor said it was a boy. My friends who were beside me said the baby's body was completely black. I felt desolate, so I didn't look up to see the baby. The nurses dealt with the body like it was rubbish. They wrapped it up in a black plastic bag and threw it in the trash."

Xiao Ai Lung was well into her second pregnancy in the city of Xiamen when family planning authorities paid her a call, according to al-Jazeera network as reported by CNSNews.com. She was dragged to a hospital, where an attempt at an induced miscarriage was made by standing her against a wall and kicking her forcefully and repeatedly in the abdomen.

When that didn't work, the baby was given a lethal injection directly through the uterus, which caused Xiao to suffer a painful stillborn delivery.

This is the bloody policy that the Vice-President of the United States, Joe Biden, heartily endorsed August 21 during a speech at a university in China. "Your policy has been one which I fully understand — I'm not second-guessing — of one child per family," Biden said, according to the official transcript.

It was one of the Vice-President's many gaffes, pathetically thrown into a speech that didn't have anything to do with abortion or the one-child policy. He just had to make it known. As an official representative of the Obama administration on an official visit to a foreign nation, Joe Biden endorsed infanticide.

No, he didn't, a Biden spokeswoman said later. "The Vice-President believes such practices are repugnant," said Kendra Barkoff. "He also pointed out, in China, that the policy is, as a practical matter, unsustainable. He was arguing against the one-child policy to a Chinese audience."

So Biden wasn't endorsing infanticide when he said he fully understood the one-child policy? His voting record as a U.S. Senator from Delaware, prior to his service as Vice-President, betrays his true sentiments. LifeNews.com uncovered at least one instance, in 2000, when Biden voted against a non-binding resolution that would have condemned China's one-child policy.

C'mon, Joe, just admit it. We already know that the President and the political party you serve are, like you, in favor of abortion at any time for any reason during the entire nine months of gestation — even the horrid partial birth abortion technique. You and your ilk see babies as a human pestilence.

We're not surprised that the truth accidentally slipped out of your mouth, halfway around the world, in admiring praise of infanticide committed by one of the harshest political systems in the world.

After all, such sentiment from people like you comes straight from the heart.

"DADDY, ARE YOU EVER BULLISH ON LITTLE BOYS?"



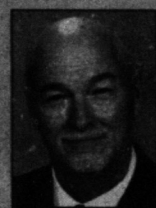
We may not realize it, but we will spend nearly a quarter of our lives at work. Many of us will relax and enjoy a day off on Labor Day. An act to pay tribute to American workers was passed by the U.S. Congress in 1894, and signed by President Grover Cleveland.

Labor Day was designated a legal holiday on the first Monday of September.

The holiday was considered a way to salute the American workers who had given us the highest standard of living and the greatest production the world has ever known. When I was a young student the new school year began the day after Labor Day, which was the symbolic end of summer. It was also considered proper in the early 1900s to be the last day that one could wear white apparel.

Labor Day is the only national holiday dedicated to plain people rather than heroes and historic events. It provides an opportunity for all of us to recognize and honor the working men and women who have built America to its present stature.

GUEST OPINION:



The devine nature of our labor

By Charles Hendrix
Brandon

Our toil was ordained by God with Adam's fall: "By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food." (Genesis 3:19) Since Adam began working in the garden we've been destined to have jobs. We cannot escape the fact that work is necessary for all who desire the basic necessities of food and shelter.

The Bible informs us of many occupations during biblical times: Abraham was a herdsman. David was a shepherd. Peter, Andrew, James, and John earned their living as fishermen. Paul was a tent-maker. Jesus Himself was a carpenter prior to his ministry. Being human as well as divine, He likely had calluses

on his hands. Surely He experienced the burning sensation of sawdust in His eyes and nostrils and knew about being tired and weary after a long day in Joseph's workshop. His great invitation to all workers, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28) shows His compassion for us.

Paul instructs us in Colossians 3:23 that whatever we do, work at it with all our hearts as we are working for the Lord, not for men. Let your employer and fellow employees perceive the life and character of Jesus in your daily work. In the final analysis, that's how you draw seekers to your Savior.

I recall a story about an old farmer who was selling his best cow. The prospective buyer asked the farmer about the cow's pedigree, butterfat production, and monthly production of milk.

The farmer said, "I don't know what a pedigree is, and I don't have any idea about butterfat production, but she's a good cow and she will give you all the milk she has." Perhaps we should follow the example of the milk cow and give all that we can in our chosen fields.

Our prayers for Labor Day should be to do the best job that we can in our workplace. We should cherish the friendship of our co-workers and take pride in our place of employment.

Our production will be enhanced, our company will prosper, and together we will be a positive contribution to our community.

Vicksburg native Hendrix, a member of First Church, Fannin, is retired from the Rankin County News.

Mississippi Baptists battle Irene in N.C., N.Y.

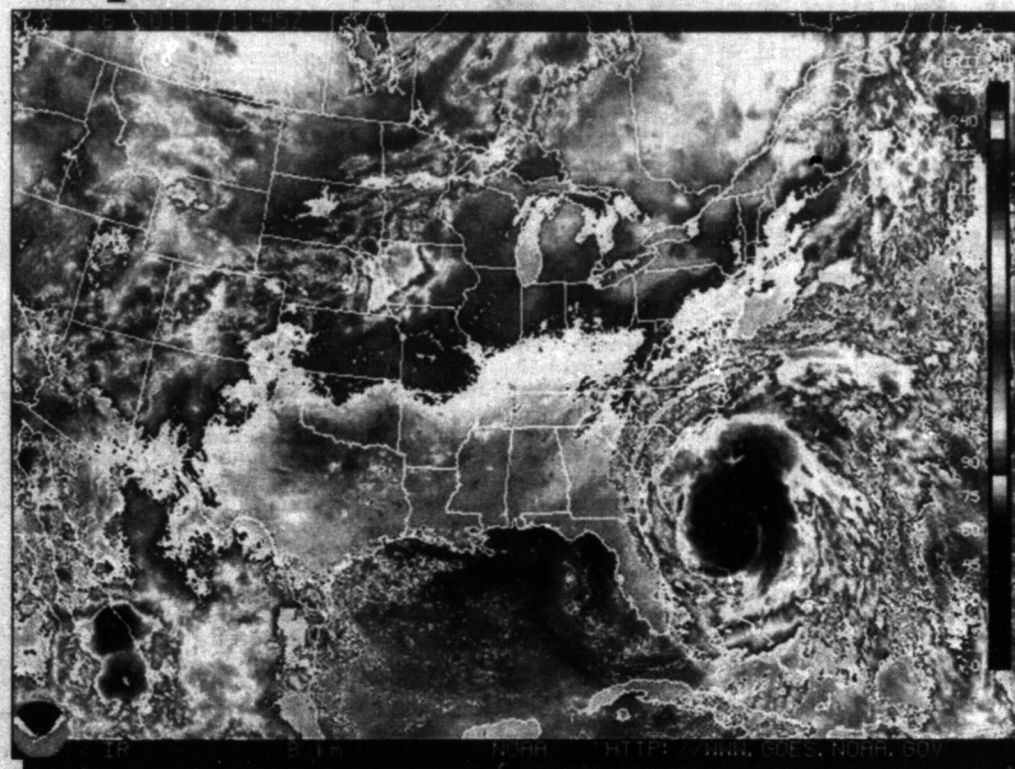
ALPHARETTA, Ga. (BP and local reports) — As Hurricane Irene continued to churn northward through New England at printing deadline on August 30, the Southern Baptist disaster relief network is alerting volunteers and planning how and where to deploy Southern Baptist disaster relief units in the aftermath of the historic East Coast storm.

Don Gann, consultant in the Men's Ministry Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson, which manages the Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief Task Force, said volunteer teams from the state have been dispatched to North Carolina and New York to assist in response and recovery.

The Task Force's fully self-contained, eighteen-wheeler mass feeding unit left Central Hills Retreat near West on the morning of August 29 headed for Wilson, N.C., near Raleigh, Gann said. The mass feeding unit, which has its own electricity, propane, and potable water systems, is staffed by trained Mississippi Baptist volunteers who can prepare thousands of hot meals per day.

The mass feeding unit is being accompanied by a shower unit from Lafayette and Marshall Associations, Gann said, along with chainsaw teams from Calhoun and Yalobusha Associations. A team from Pearl River Association is headed to Albany, N.Y., to assist in feeding operations in the central portion of that state.

An estimated 65 million Americans were in the path of Irene. Staff members at the North American Mission Board (NAMB) disaster operations center (DOC) in Alpharetta, Ga., are in talks with Southern Baptist Convention disaster relief leadership, said Bruce Poss, NAMB's disaster relief coordinator in Alpharetta.



Planning also is underway with Southern Baptist's partners in disaster relief — the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Red Cross, Salvation Army, and National VOA (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters).

Irene brought torrential rainfall, wind gusts over 40 mph, significant coastal flooding, storm surge, and tornadoes to the East Coast and New England. Heavy rain also could impact areas around the periphery of the storm, including western Virginia, western Maryland, central Pennsylvania and central and western New York.

Widespread wind damage and power outages have been reported.

From its disaster operations center in Alpharetta, NAMB coordinates and manages Southern Baptist responses to major disasters through a partnership between NAMB and the SBC's 42 state conventions, most of which have their own state disaster relief programs.

Southern Baptist disaster relief assets include 82,000 trained volunteers, chaplains, and 1,550 mobile units for feeding, chainsaw, mud-out, command, communication, child-care, shower, laundry, water purification, repair/rebuild, and power generation.

Southern Baptist disaster relief is one of the largest mobilizers of trained, credentialed disaster relief volunteers in the United States, including the Red Cross and Salvation Army.

The Mississippi Baptist

Disaster Relief Task Force is supported by gifts to the Mississippi Cooperative Program, the Margaret Lackey Offering for State Missions, and donations to the Task Force.

To donate, make checks payable to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, with "disaster relief" noted on the memo line. Mail to MBCB, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Donations can also be made on-line by visiting www.mbc.org, and clicking on "Disaster Relief Updates" near the bottom of the page.

For more information on the Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief Task Force, contact the Men's Ministry Department at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, P/O/ Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3334 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 334. E-mail: cwright@mbcb.org. Web site: www.mbc.org.

No divorce saves \$\$\$

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Divorce reform advocates are arguing that making divorce less easy can save the government billions of dollars in an era of mounting debt and deficits. Chris Gersten, founder and chairman of the nonpartisan Coalition for Divorce Reform, told the Washington Times that "the savings to taxpayers will be pretty dramatic" if states pass the coalition's legislative plan which aims to slash divorce rates by a third over five years. The Times reported that a single-parent family that results from a divorce can put Uncle Sam on the hook for \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year, which comes to an overall societal expense of between \$33 billion and \$112 billion a year. Americans have long favored making divorce more legally difficult, according to the Times, which reported that for more than 30 years, more Americans responding to the General Social Survey indicated they wanted divorce to be harder than those who favored easing the process. The Times reported that state divorce reform legislation is a rarity, and very few couples opt in to more restrictive marriages created by such laws. Indeed, New York went in the opposite direction in 2010 by allowing no-fault divorce.

Looking back

10 years ago

LifeWay Christian Stores opens its 100th store in Knoxville, Tenn. The chain also announces the opening of its third Mississippi bookstore in Gulfport, joining the stores in Jackson and Tupelo.

20 years ago

Jerry Clower of Yazoo City and Grand Ole Opry fame announces his intention to nominate Jess Moody for president of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1992. Clower makes the statement during a recent visit to the Baptist Building in Jackson.

50 years ago

Churches in America are "little more than country clubs," appealing mostly to the comfortable middle and upper classes as "rich, suburban, and exclusive," according to a recent statement by evangelist Billy Graham.



THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

PUBLISHED SINCE 1877

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VOL. 135

No. 34



YOU CAN RESPOND RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

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SKJN EJCZ, HPB NR
SKHS BHQ FRLZ WVRP
QRW, WPHTHDZN.
EWXZ STZPSQ-RPZ:
SKJDSQ-CRWD

Clue: W = U

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Acts Twenty: Twenty-Eight

UNDISCOVERED

In the year 1622 off the Florida Keys, a Spanish Galleon named the Atocha went down in the strong winds of a hurricane. It was laden with treasures: gold, silver, emeralds, and other precious items. It remained hidden in the depths until July 20, 1985. A visionary explorer who had spent 16 years of his life researching and searching discovered the Atocha's mother lode. They began to recover over 40 tons of silver and gold. The total find of treasures was worth almost five hundred million dollars. For hundreds of years, an enormous treasure remained unclaimed, untouched, and undiscovered in the quiet, beautiful waters off the Florida Keys. While Mel Fisher led the expedition, there was a large number of people who had invested to help make the discovery. As you can imagine, once it was discovered there were multitudes of people who wished that they had invested so that they might share in the bounty.

This year the theme of the Margaret Lackey State Missions Offering is *Undiscovered*. As with the Atocha, there are great treasures to be discovered through the wonderful investment in our State Missions Offering. Because of the historical record we know that there will be souls saved, young people will come to know Jesus and walk with Him, lives will be challenged to follow the call of God, thousands will have opportunity to be involved in actual hands-on missions, and many will come to respond to the call of God to missions — because we give. It is only because of the generosity of the saints across our state that we are able to enhance the work and broaden the Kingdom's impact. The numbers are



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

important, but far more important are the stories of lives changed, people helped, and of the call of God being discovered — because you care.

Our two encampments, Central Hills Retreat near West and Garaywa Camp and Conference Center in Clinton, provide incredible opportunities for boys and girls through the summer months which result in about 200 of them accepting Jesus as their Savior. There is no way to measure the significance of that discovery taking place. Because of your giving this past year, 1,500 short-term volunteers were able to go to 45 countries around our world and to 11 states, sharing the love of Jesus. As one man from an area in the northern part of our country said to me, "I do not believe that I could take you into any of our churches where you would not see the fingerprints of Mississippi Baptists who have come to help us." Those discoveries both in the hearts of those who go and the hearts of those they touch when they go cannot be measured in dollars and cents, but they would not happen without our dollars.

Part of the offering that you give goes into areas that you may never have an opportunity to go and may not ever want to go. The prisons across our land are not closed to the opportunities we have to share the Gospel and to enable those who have been incarcerated to

find new life and to find hope in Christ in a place where there seems to be no hope. A few months ago I was preaching in one of our prisons. A man came up to me and introduced himself. He said that he wanted to thank me and asked me to thank all of the Baptists who made it possible for him to study the Word of God there in prison and to discover that he could serve the Lord right there where he was. You helped to make that possible through the State Missions Offering. For him and for me I want to tell you, "Thank you!" There are undiscovered lives being changed as you and I provide the Gospel, the light shining in the darkness, hope penetrating where there is despair, and life being shared in places that it seems that death and destruction are all that can be seen.

Let me share with you some undiscovered realities among us. While there are great needs and you and I can be a part of meeting those needs, part of the undiscovered treasure is in our hearts and in our churches. Each fall when we emphasize the State Missions Offering, only about half of our churches participate at all. While there are speakers who can come, infor-

mation that can be shared, prayers that can be offered, and an offering that can be received, only about a thousand of our churches share in the opportunity to invest in the lives of people for eternity.

Having served as a pastor for over a third of a century, I certainly am aware that there are always multiple needs that call for our attention. I am also keenly aware that in this day of financial struggle and economic downturn there are limitations that are great. Still I would encourage all of our churches to at least provide the opportunity for those who can to give. I am convinced that if you can and if you will, God will bless you immensely.

Margaret Lackey was the first state secretary of the Woman's Missionary Union here in Mississippi. She was an untiring worker and a faithful missionary trying to help our churches impact a lost world. She did not set out to have an offering named for her. Her goal was to bless lives and enlarge the population of heaven. That is the reason why the offering is named for this outstanding lady. In the name of Christ and following in the spirit of Margaret Lackey herself, we continue pushing forward into the areas that are undiscovered. We ask God to use us, our gifts, our abilities, and our prayers to reach a world that still has *Undiscovered* regions.

May God richly bless you as you do what you can to be a part of this great work and this wonderful offering!

The author can be contacted at jfutral@mbcb.org.

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MADISON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION IS NOW RECEIVING RESUMES FOR THE POSITION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS. Send resumes to Whitesburg Baptist Church, 6806 Whitesburg Dr., Huntsville, AL 35802 or email to terry.heard@wbccares.org.

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THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST FOUNDATION

Fall 2011

Rules for the Road...Tools of the Trade



Daniel Hall

Executive Director
Mississippi Baptist Foundation

Two days after my daughter's 15th birthday in early August, we made a trip to an office of the Mississippi Highway Patrol with the goal of receiving a learner's permit. Our visit occurred on the Friday before most schools were scheduled to begin so we took a seat in the crowded waiting area. We observed more than a few other teenagers whose singular mission on that particular day was to demonstrate their understanding of the "rules of the road" through a computerized test.

Happily, Alyssa proved successful in completing the test. For her efforts, she received a laminated driving permit, complete with her picture, to demonstrate that she could drive an automobile. This year-long permit carries the stipulation that she must be accompanied by a licensed driver who is at least twenty-one years of age. As one would expect, Alyssa was quite excited and began texting the good news of her accomplishment to several friends.

A few of these friends (veteran drivers - teenagers of 15 to almost 16 years old) already have vehicles that have been purchased for them. Therefore, my daughter has been stricken with a not-so-mild case of "car fever." Although I have told her that I am thinking about purchasing an ice cream truck with a jingle-playing public address system (she might as well earn money for college as she travels), Alyssa has begun searching the Internet for the perfect first car.

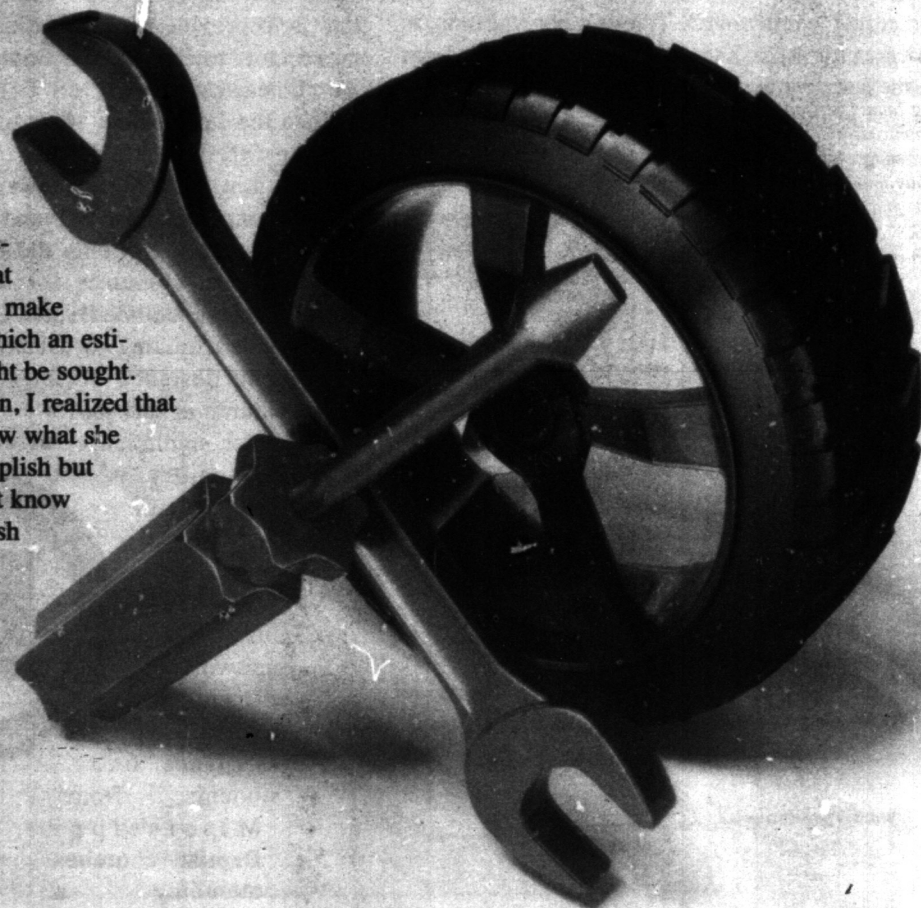
Upon discovering a vehicle in which she had an interest, Alyssa insisted that I look at the picture on the computer screen. Admittedly, I didn't read through every detail about the cars that were brought to my attention. I did begin to notice,

however, that every vehicle that arose from her online search appeared to be spotless and in showroom fresh condition despite the fact that a number of them were several years old. I was a bit perplexed how a novice at online car searches was finding vehicles that looked cleaner and in better shape than those that I typically identify. Well, my curiosity finally got the best of me so I began asking questions regarding year, mileage, number of cylinders, fuel economy, and advertised price.

As Alyssa proceeded to offer the information, I realized that she wasn't looking at vehicles that were actually being advertised for sale. Rather, she was "finding" cars on an online pricing service such as NADA,

Edmunds, or Kelly Blue Book. Thus, the pictures that presented the cars in impressive fashion were actually manufacturer's photos that accompanied the make and model for which an estimated value might be sought.

Upon reflection, I realized that my daughter knew what she wanted to accomplish but she really did not know how to accomplish her objective of locating cars for possible purchase. She was well-motivated, but not completely educated regarding the best approach for making progress.



Mary M. Kyle: A cheerleader for learning

Miss Mary Matilda Kyle's earthly life and ministry spanned a period of nearly nine decades. For forty-one of those years she taught in the Jackson Public Schools and in Copiah County. Known as a "cheerleader for learning," Mary Kyle's genuine concern for her students and peers garnered her sincere respect. Referring to the relationship with students, Mary stated, "My students are willing to work for me in class, so I support them. I'm their best cheerleader." One of Mary's former principals called Miss Kyle "an outstanding, dedicated teacher (who) always thinks of the students and what she can do for them. She has high morals and conveys them to her students."



Kyle

Believing that she could make a difference in her students' lives by teaching them to think positively, Mary would often tell her students, "Respect yourself, then live by the perfect example. All of my students can be somebody because God doesn't make trash." A newspaper article that chronicled Mary's lengthy career in education captured her love for young people as she declared, "It's just an inspiration to deal with these young people. If I can help them achieve their goal, I feel that I have done something worthwhile." Through her vocation as an educator, Miss Kyle faithfully served her Lord as she helped prepare children for life and for a lifetime of learning.



ABOVE: Galilee Baptist Church, Rockport, MS

RIGHT: Pat Clark, Wallace Clark, Daniel Hall

Mary Kyle's relationship with the Mississippi Baptist Foundation began nearly 40 years ago when, in December 1971, she made a contribution to start an endowment honoring the life and memory of her parents. Established as the "Mr. and Mrs. Alfred F. Kyle, Sr. Memorial Fund," the purpose of this endowment is to provide perpetual financial support to the Galilee Baptist Church near Hazlehurst, MS.

When the Lord called Mary into "higher service" on July 1, 2010, further evidence of her wise planning and faithful stewardship was presented through her Last Will and Testament and Inter Vivos Trust. Not only did Miss Kyle provide additional resources for the endowment that benefits the Galilee Baptist Church, but she also provided funding to establish a perpetual endowment designed to bless the Calvary Baptist Church in Jackson.

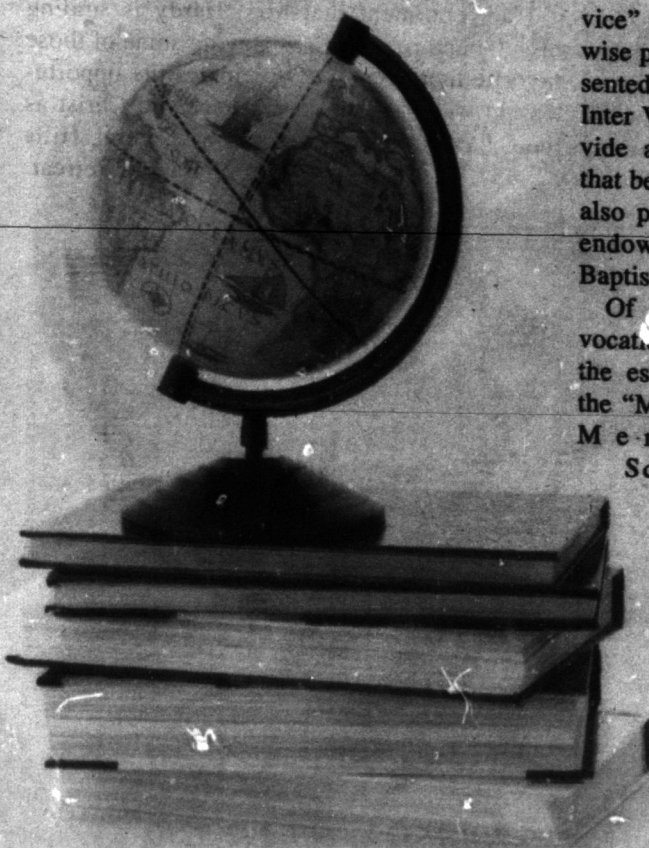
Of special significance, in view of Mary's vocational ministry, is the establishment of the "Mary M. Kyle Memorial Scholarship Trust." This endowment will provide scholarship assistance for students from Mississippi Baptist churches attending a Baptist college in Mississippi. A

specific focus of this scholarship will be students who are preparing for vocational pursuits in the field of education. Near the end of her 40+ year career, Mary Kyle acknowledged that she remained a teacher because, "I love it. When I see that students really understand something, (then) that makes teaching all worthwhile."

As a faithful steward through her church and as a lifelong educator, Mary M. Kyle knew that she wanted to continue having an impact on future generations by providing opportunities for spiritual growth and for the accomplishment of academic, ministry, and vocational goals. In other words, she knew the "What" of her planned giving and stewardship goals and the Mississippi Baptist Foundation came alongside as a "laborer together with God" to assist Mary with the "How" by providing tools of the trade.



Mississippi College
A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



ABOVE: Campers worship at the Central Hills Baptist Retreat fire pit.

RIGHT: Barri Shirley — MBCB Business Services, Don Gann — MBCB Men's Ministry, Jim Ray — CHBR Camp Manager, Daniel Hall — MBF



Katharine Hardy: A legacy of ministering to others

Katharine Hardy loved the Lord and His church — FBC Grenada, MS — where she played the organ for the better part of her adult life. For the past several years, Katharine resided at an assisted living center in Grenada. Her sweet spirit and contented smile were contagious and I enjoyed visiting with her. On more than one occasion, I arrived on Tuesday about the time that many of the residents gathered in the "big room" for singing and a brief devotional. I was privileged to have a part in this worship experience a few times. Katharine Hardy was the regular pianist for these chapel services as hymnbooks were distributed and participants called out their favorites. Katharine masterfully played each selection as the group sang enthusiastically.



Hardy

The last visit that I had with Mrs. Hardy at the retirement center was a Tuesday afternoon. I hadn't been there long when Mrs. Hardy glanced at her watch and said "It's time to go to the chapel. Won't you come join us?" (Though she put the statement in the form of a question, she was probably more expecting than asking.) I walked with Mrs. Hardy down the long hallway to the gathering and helped her to the piano. When I asked if she needed a hymnal, her facial expression suggested "What do you think?" She simply sat on the bench and started playing the wonderful hymns that present important biblical truths.

Though Katharine Hardy moved on to "higher service" with her Heavenly Father less than a year ago, her influence and legacy will continue until the

Lord returns through the "John Griffiths and Katharine Hardy Memorial Fund" Following the death of her husband several years ago, Katharine established a Charitable Remainder Unitrust through the Mississippi Baptist Foundation. Through this arrangement, Katharine presented a gift to the Foundation for which she received a charitable deduction for income tax purposes. She also received an income stream — in the form of a check from the Foundation — each quarter for the balance of her earthly life.

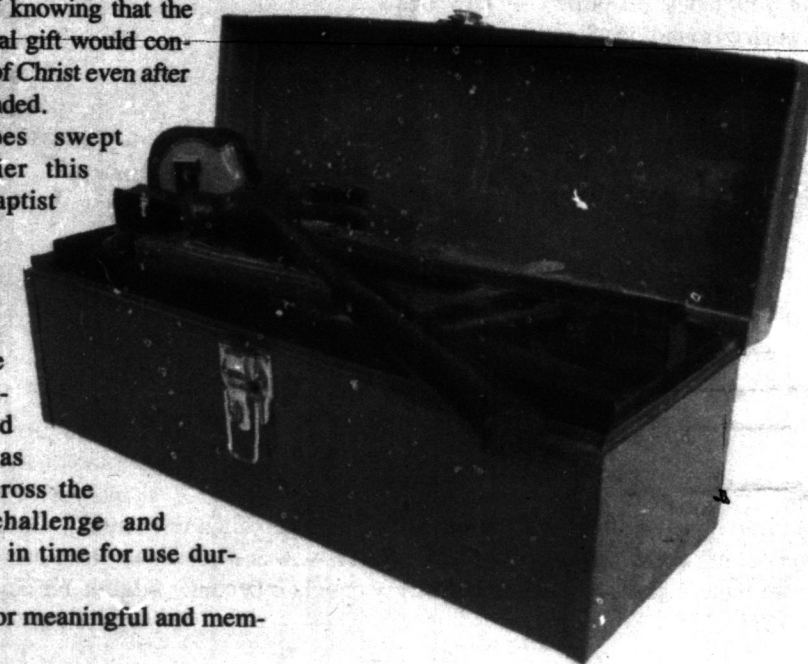
Perhaps the most significant blessing to Katharine was the joy of knowing that the residual value of her initial gift would continue to further the cause of Christ even after her earthly sojourn had ended.

When the tornadoes swept across our state earlier this year, Central Hills Baptist Retreat near Kosciusko received significant damage that could have altered the summer camp schedule even to the point of cancellation. The Lord had other plans, however, as scores of volunteers across the state rallied to the challenge and rebuilt the encampment in time for use during the summer.

One of the key areas for meaningful and mem-

orable worship experiences is the amphitheater (fire pit) where campers not only gather to worship but where eternal decisions are made. Unfortunately, this area received extensive damage from the tornado. To help with the repairs to the amphitheater, resources were made available by the Mississippi Baptist Foundation from the fund established by Mrs. Hardy.

I am confident that Mrs. Hardy is smiling broadly and perhaps still playing some of those favorite hymns as she anticipates the opportunity to welcome those who received Christ as their Savior at the fire pit at Central Hills Baptist Retreat.



Info 101 – Mississippi Baptists Offer Planning Guide for Organizing Financial Affairs

The following article, written by Ann Maniscalco and published on her Biloxi Christian Living Examiner website, is reprinted with permission. A regular contributor to Missions Mosaic and a member of the First Baptist Church of Ocean Springs, MS, Ann enjoys challenging Christians to put feet to their faith, sharing God's love with those down the street and around the world.

"Do you know where information on all your bank accounts are? What about CDs, IRAs, Money Market accounts, bonds, insurance policies, retirement accounts and such? Have you inventoried your valuable possessions? Are your home ownership documents, wills, and your wishes for end-of-life care and funeral plans easy to locate?"

Perhaps you may look at this list and think you don't have enough of these things to worry with, but having the info and whereabouts together is beneficial for at least two reasons:

Maniscalco

You can readily go to one place to find needed info, instead of having to scout around in drawers, closets and boxes looking for needed documents. In the case of your death, it will be a godsend for family members or friends who will have to tend to your affairs during a time of grief.

Not many people have advance notice of when they're going to leave this world, although some may know their death is imminent. One person in the Old Testament — Hezekiah — had a warning to get his plans together:

"In those days Hezekiah became ill and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz went to him and said, 'This is what the LORD says, 'Put your house in order, because you are going to die; you will not recover.'"

(2 Kings 20:1)

"Put your house in order" — now that's wise advice found in Scripture. However, adults of all ages often procrastinate about organizing their financial affairs. To simplify this important process, a free resource is available from the

YOUR PERSONAL PLANNING TOOLKIT

a planning guide for organizing your personal financial arrangements

These planning tools are provided by:

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Mississippi Baptist Foundation (MBF). The booklet, "Your Personal Planning Toolkit," provides a well-planned guide to help you formulate and consolidate important information such as listed above.

In addition to sections for you to fill in personal information such as names, addresses, phone numbers, Social Security numbers, employment history and such, there are also pages for you to jot down locations and phone numbers of banks or other financial institutions where you have holdings, and the numbers and descriptions of said accounts (ditto for other financial documents).

For personal property and valuables, you can

list and describe them, and even write in a current value. Vehicle inventory pages include spaces for registration numbers, insurance details, and where spare keys are located. Another section allows you to list financial advisors (investment counselor, financial planner, insurance agent, etc.).

A large section considers your funeral plans. You can detail pre-made plans, say whether you wish to be an organ donor, list your pallbearers, add names and phone numbers of those you want notified, etc. A page is available for you to write your personal testimony, should you want it shared at your funeral.

A helpful section called "Helpful Reminders at the Time of Loss" lists things the funeral home will need and reminders of other things your family or executor will need to do. At the end of the booklet, you will find an estate planning guide, definitions of legal terms, and other info to consider.

Desiring to set aside time to fill out this booklet probably rates up there with having a root canal done but it will be well worth the investment of time involved. You and other family members will enjoy having a "one-stop-shop" for an expansive amount of financial and personal details at hand. Your descendants will be incredibly thankful for your foresight and your consideration in pulling this info together."

Like Mary Kyle and Katharine Hardy, you can have a significant Kingdom impact through a Last Will and Testament or a Charitable Remainder Unitrust. Completing "Your Personal Planning Toolkit," can help streamline this process. Your friends at the Mississippi Baptist Foundation welcome the opportunity to explain the "Rules of the Road" by offering additional "Tools of the Trade" as you navigate through your stewardship and planned giving needs and goals.

1. Karen Lindsey-Lloyd, director of retention and career services at Mississippi College, has been named as one of the state's 50 Leading Business Women by the Mississippi Business Journal.
2. William Carey University's contemporary Christian vocal ensemble, Carpenter's Wood, recently returned from a mission trip in Milan, Italy. Carpenter's Wood sang on street corners, at trade fairs and at

open-air markets. During breaks, the group shared faith testimonies and invited the public to the scheduled performances. While most of the ministry was centered in Milan, the ensemble also visited Brescia and the small village of Casorate Primo. In Brescia, they made connections with other young people who were eager to learn about WCU. In Casorate Primo, the team converged with two other mission teams, one from San Francisco, and one

from Australia. All three groups performed and testified in the village. Shown are (left to right, front row) Kathy Vail, associate professor of music and director of Carpenter's Wood, Jillyanne Campbell of Pensacola, Fla., Michelle Wade of Mobile, Ala., Caitlyn McAdams of Hattiesburg, Sara Catherine Lumpkin of McNeill, Allison Chestnut, associate professor of language and literature, Melissa Shearer of Hattiesburg, (left to right, back row) Timothy Tolar of Carriere, Matthew Ditsworth of Hurley, Brett Sutherland of Petal, and Mark Malone, associate professor of music.



1. Lindsey-Lloyd



2. William Carey University

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Clarification

Editor:

I appreciated your publishing the recent article announcing my appointment as director of the Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies at Columbia International University in South Carolina. The abbreviated article released by Baptist Press failed to include the paragraph that I would continue to reside in Mississippi where my wife and I have retired after 40 years of service with the International Mission Board (IMB). The article has created assumptions among church members and our friends throughout the state that we are moving to South Carolina. Directing the Zwemer Center is only one additional responsibility we have assumed as we continue to lead conferences and engage in mission advocacy in fulfillment of God's call.

We are delighted to be in Mississippi and look forward to ministry among the churches here where we live. Your readers can follow our activities, ministries, devotional reflections, and blog commentary on our web site, therankinfile.com. It is a joy to be back home, and we have no plans to leave the Magnolia State.

Jerry Rankin
President Emeritus
IMB, SBC

REVIVALS AND HOMECOMINGS

1. Pleasant Grove Church, Laurel: Revival, Sept. 11 - 14; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 6:30 p.m.; Whit Lewis, speaker; Kent Miller, music; Jerry Roberson, pastor.
2. Sandy Hook Church, Sandy Hook: Revival, Sept. 4 - 7; Sun., 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 6:30 p.m.; Tommy King and Michael Knippers, speakers; Archie Rawls and Steve Howard, music.
3. Parkway Church, Pascagoula: Homecoming, Sept. 11; services, 10:30 a.m., followed by dinner on the ground and afternoon singing.
4. Como Church, Como: 125th anniversary, Sept. 11; worship, 11 a.m.; fellowship with refreshments and homemade ice cream, 5 p.m.; concert of southern gospel music, 6 p.m.; Jasper Butler, music; Lannie Wilbourn, pastor.

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P.S.

I returned from an out-of-town preaching engagement a few days ago to find our other car parked in a position in the driveway that was approaching horizontal. I walked in the house with one question: "Who drove the Jeep?" I already knew the answer. Thankfully, we have about eleven more months to practice before my daughter becomes eligible for her "drive by herself" license. Stay tuned and keep praying!

— DCH

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

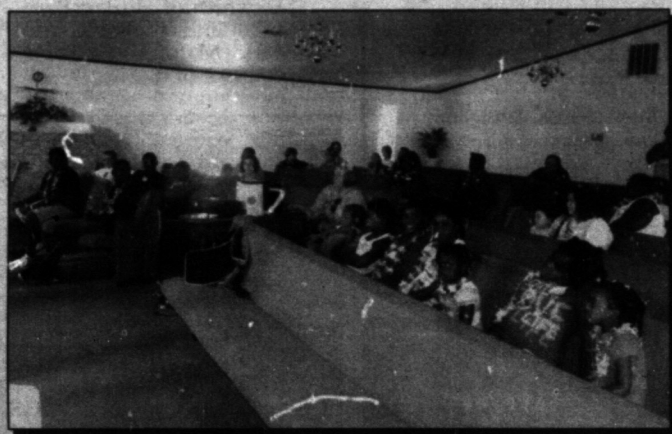
1. **Beulah Church, Lexington:** June 13 – 17; shown are the participants.
2. **Progress Church, McComb:** Shown are the participants.
3. **Faith Church, Charleston:** July 27 – 29; average attendance, 38, with three professions of faith; shown are the participants.



1. Beulah Church, Lexington



2. Progress Church, McComb



3. Faith Church, Charleston

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Men's Class AA Winners

1. **1st Place — Grace Fellowship**
First Row (L-R): Zack Willbanks, Chad Hall, Alix Wright, Zach Flynt, Ronnie McCain, Colby Burks, Danny Burks; Back Row (L-R): Dusty Thompson, Eric Sloan, Billy Richey, Brian Flynt, Jason Hendrix, Wayne Willbanks
2. **2nd Place — Immanuel**
First Row (L-R): Don McAuley, Jason Smith, Michael Coomes, Heath Smith, Lane Smith, Paul Mitchell; Back Row (L-R): Patrick Parker, Tommy Sherman, Clay Hudson, Jeremy Ferguson, Bully Bufkin, Greg Mitchell, Gabe Bufkin, Sam Gastrell
3. **3rd Place — Pine Forest**
First Row (L-R): Lary Luke, Chad Rainer, Cohlby Jones, Jeremiah Lovett, Luke Walker; Back Row (L-R): Hank Perkins, Jamie Followay, Josh Perkins, Chris Nutt, Tyler Vick, Brock Mosley



1. Grace Fellowship



2. Emmanuel



3. Pine Forest

COLLEGE NEWS

1. **William Carey University** announces that there will be no increase in basic undergraduate tuition for the 2011 – 2012 academic year. The average cost of tuition at WCU remains at \$9,750. Ample scholarships and grants are available to assist students with tuition cost as well as room and board. Although a small adjustment will be made to graduate costs, the graduate tuition at Carey remains lower than any area university.

3. **The William Carey University Library** has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to fund a traveling exhibit entitled *Manifold Greatness: The Creation and Afterlife of the King James Bible*. The exhibit, which celebrates the 400th anniversary of the first printing of the King James Bible, is a joint project of the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., and the American Library Association Public Programs Office. It is based on an exhibit of the same name developed by the Bodleian Libraries at the University of Oxford, with assistance from the Harry Ransom Center of the University of Texas, and the Folger Shakespeare Library. The traveling exhibit was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The exhibit will be housed in the Sarah Gillespie Museum of Art on the WCU Hattiesburg campus from January 18 – February 17, 2012.



BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

Connect to CommUnity
Psalm 133:1-3; 1 Corinthians 12:12-18, 21-26

By Huey Dedmon

We live in a world where we are pushed by friends, media and by our own desires, to be an individual. We are constantly bombarded by slogans like "Just Do It" or "I'm Worth It." I believe the world (Satan) tries to convince us of our individuality so that it can take advantage of us. He does this because He knows the power of community among believers. Being a part of a community provides the believer with many benefits. The Apostle Paul and the writer of the book of Psalm help us see some of these benefits.

Community is Vital (1 Corinthians 12:12-18)

As a way of communicating to the Corinthians, Paul uses the analogy of comparing the human body to the church in

community. The reality he points out is that whether we think we are or not we, as believers, are all a part of the community of Christ. One member cannot say I am not a part of the body because my function or contribution to the body seems less important than some other part of the body. Paul emphasizes that all parts are necessary for the body to function correctly. I try to consistently remind everyone here at Brandon Baptist Church that if we are going to get our God given task done, then it will take all of us. Every job must be done. We are the ones who categorize the importance of the different tasks inside the church, not God. All believers, no matter what their role, are called to participate in the life of the church. The diversity

Dedmon

that often divides us is the true strength of the church. Unity does not mean we all agree on everything, it means we love and accept each other even though we disagree. I have a bad knee and it hurts most of the time and at times it hurts really bad but I have never considered removing my knee. I need it to function properly. The church is our community and our community is vital to our fulfillment of the Great Commission.

Community Cares for Its Own (1 Corinthians 12:21-26)

Paul points out one of the most impressive things about community in these verses. Verse 26 says: "So if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it." (HCSB) In a community we are all connected together by a common thread. For us as believers we are connected through Jesus Christ. If someone in our

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Good News to Tell

ROMANS 1:1-17

By Marion D. Duncan

Romans, the gospel according to Paul, might have been intended as a "commendation to the saints at Rome" for Phebe who was planning to visit Rome. However, when Paul finished, he had written one of the most important documents in Christian theology (Exploring Romans, John Phillips).

Paul establishes in the introductory verses who he is, his new nature — the change in his life was so great that he could do nothing else from that time forward but tell others about salvation made possible by faith in Jesus Christ. This gospel had been promised in the Holy Scriptures, which for Paul were the books of the Old Testament — "the cradle in which Christ was laid." (The Broadman Bible Commentary, v. 10)

Jesus, fully human, came to earth through the lineage of David (Romans 1:3). He was also fully divine as seen in verse four which declares that the Deity of Jesus was established powerfully by His resurrection from the dead. Thus, He became like we are in order to make us like Him. Beginning in verse five, Paul explains that he was set apart, first, by God who knew him and had a plan for him even before he was a man. Secondly, he was set apart by men when he and Barnabas were separated by the Church at Antioch for special missions to the Gentiles. He had a task to do for God and for the Church of God.

Paul states his commission: he had received grace, a gift absolutely free, undeserved and unearned. Grace comes first before apostleship, salva-

Duncan

tion before service. Paul had also received a task, to be an apostle to the Gentiles — a task not for glory, but for toil — which he keeps before us in the pressing need for world evangelism. (Phillips) His desire was for the saints at Rome to know who he had become and to whom he had dedicated his life in service.

In verse seven, Paul addresses the church at Rome "who are loved by God and called to be His saints." The word "saint" does not refer to a special group (class) in the church, but actually means "one set apart for God."

Next in the salutation comes Paul's greeting to the church at Rome. The Greeks greeted each other with "chaire" (joy to you) while the Hebrews exchanged "shalom" (peace). Here Paul's greeting is in the form of a prayer — grace and peace to you (meaning, favor and order to you) united with God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

In verses eight through fif-

teen, Paul proclaims his gratitude to God for the saints in the church at Rome because of the report of their faith that has come to him everywhere he visits. He affirms his unceasing prayers for them and their faithful witness. Baring his heart, he tells them how he longs to spend some time with them — that they might be mutually encouraged and strengthened by each other's faith. He assures them that he has planned many times to visit them and preach the gospel in Rome as he has in other places, but the opportunity had never come.

He described his debt to the Greeks and non-Greeks, or to the cultured and uncultured — because of God's grace in his life, Paul believes that he is obligated to take the gospel of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, thus his eagerness to preach the gospel in Rome and beyond.

Paul reinforced the content of the gospel with statements about its power, its results, and how salvation is received. The theme of the letter is found in verses sixteen and seventeen where

will recognize us by our love for each other. It goes without saying that people stay away from us when we are in disharmony. One possible background on the use of this psalm is that the people of Israel sang this as they were traveling to Jerusalem to a celebration. The blessing of God for our living in community is summed up in the last phrase of verse 3, "For there the Lord has appointed the blessing — life evermore." (HCSB) Our blessing is life with Him in Heaven and life with Him now!

In a world where we are challenged to become more and more isolated from each other, we as God's people need to step up to the challenge of living in true Biblical community. Living in unity with each other and showing love to others pleases God and causes His blessing to pour out on us.

Dedmon is associate pastor for education and outreach, Brandon Church, Brandon.

Paul further explains his passion to preach the gospel to everyone from slaves, such as Onesimus, or to monarchs, such as King Agrippa. First, he was not ashamed of the gospel of Christ because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes. (NIV) Paul was an intelligent, well-educated man with a world vision who knew that the gospel of Christ was superior to all other religions of his day, and ours.

The key word in verse seventeen is "righteousness." Righteousness is what God is, has, and gives and provides through Christ His Son. The righteousness of God is received by faith and reproduced by faith. Through our "likeness" to God, we become "just." Our life from God enables us to "live." (Phillips) As it is written, "The just (righteous) will live by faith." (Habakkuk 2:4)

Duncan is a member and pastor's wife from First Church, Macon.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number. Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if

submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lit. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items are generally not publishable. Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples.

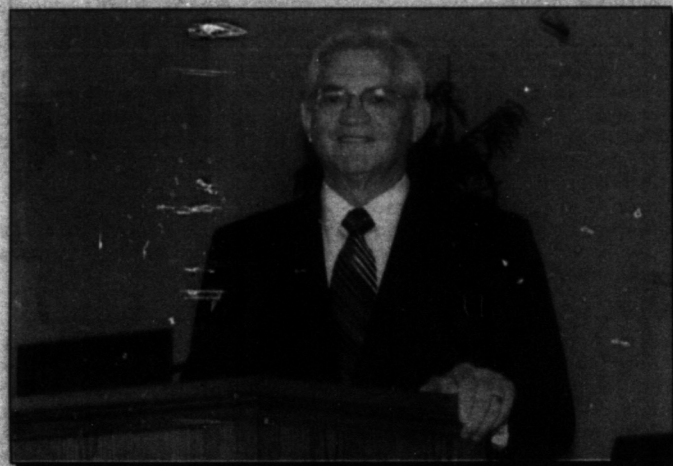
All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

JUST FOR THE RECORD



1. Cascilla Church, Cascilla



2. Perry



3. Henderson ordination



4. Skelton licensing

1. **Cascilla Church, Cascilla**, recently held a school supply drive for area children and youth. Overall, 19 bags of school supplies were packed and distributed to local students and families. Shown are the participants.

2. **Big Level Church, Wiggins**, held a celebratory service honoring pastor David Perry, shown, for 50 years of ministry. Guest speakers included Nathan Barbour, Bryce Evans, Steve Mooneyham, and Brett Pobbins.

3. **Morrison Chapel Church, Cleveland**, ordained Marshall Henderson to the gospel ministry July 24. Shown are pastor John Thomas, Henderson, and Jill Curry Henderson.

4. **Red Banks Church, Marshall/Lafayette Association**, licensed Andy Skelton to preach Aug. 7. Shown, front are Skelton, right, with pastor Jonathan Childress and the deacon body. Back row, Jon Woods, John McClatchy, Jamie Rappa, Robert Mayer, Lem Rappa, Leroy Derrick, and Ricky Novarese.

5. **Evergreen Church, Louisville**, honored Charles and Agnes Davis, shown, with a retirement reception honoring them for 20 years of service to the church Aug. 21.

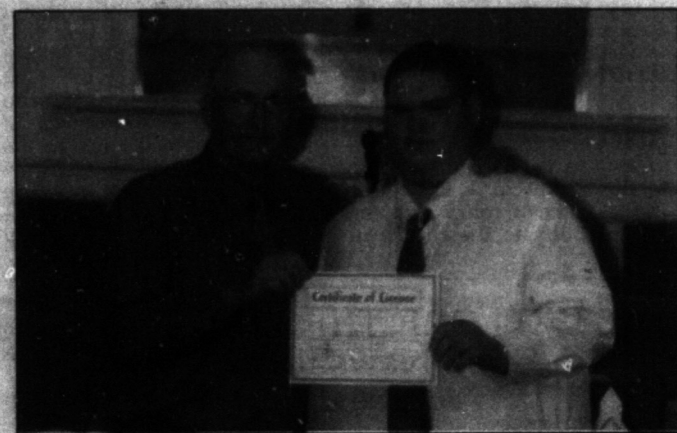
6. **Tangipahoa Church, Summit**, licensed Michael Didon to the ministry July 24. Shown are pastor Mike Morris and Didon.

7. **Parkway Church, Hernando**, celebrated the note burning for their new education wing July 10. Shown are Tom Styers, Jerry Loftin, pastor Tom Marshall, and George Hitt.

8. **Eastview Church, Laurel**, dedicated its media room to the memory of Trevor Roy Stringer July 3 in appreciation of his nearly two decades of work with the audio-visual equipment at the church. A tribute was made by presenting his family with a framed letter of appreciation of his devotion to the church, as well as placing a plaque on the door of the room. Pictured are family members Mary Jo Stringer, Christopher Stringer, Raymond, Holly and Jolie Rambin. Also pictured are Eastview minister Gayle Pope (front left), chairman of deacons, Ronnie Holifield, (back row left) and Bill Chancellor, minister of music (back row right).



5. The Davises



6. Didon licensing



7. Parkway Church, Hernando



8. Stringer dedication